

Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

Patronizing Peddlers

People are awaking to the fact that not only does the peddler usually fail to give either good quality or fair service, but his unfair competition injures the local merchant and eventually reacts on the public. The peddler does nothing to support the town he enters. He leaves to others the matter of paying for the roads, the sidewalks, the water service, the lights, the fire protection, the sewerage, the police protection and the various other services that must be maintained in any town. The peddler does not assist in the maintenance of local churches, schools, community organizations, sports, relief or anything else essentially local. So far as the local municipality is concerned the peddler is only a parasite, a borrower who will never even acknowledge the debt.

Seldom a week passes but the advance receives a complaint that a peddler sold a citizen a bath-tub or a photograph or some printing or some prunes, and while fraud may not be proven in a court of law the patron of the peddler is no more pleased than if it were. The local merchant, ninety times out of a hundred can supply a better grade of goods than the peddler provides. This is always the price for a trick—to talk about the price for a superior article carried locally, and on the mere question of low price, foist upon the customer something that will prove costly indeed. The more important phase, however, is the injury to the public from this peddling system with all its unfairness. If all business were done by peddlers not a local municipality could exist. When the peddler has a free swing, local business must necessarily suffer. If business is handed over to the peddler, the business man can not be expected to provide credit, extend service, pay taxes, and contribute to the various causes that maintain a town in progress and prosperity.

With all the talk about peddlers now going on in so many towns it may be asked, "Why is something not done to remedy the situation?" Why is there not drastic action? The answer seems to be that in many cases those concerned see clearly the evil of the peddler in their own line, but they are not so ready to follow the general principle of protection for all against unfair competition. A man formerly in business in Timmins used almost to weep while he recounted the evils of the peddler to his own special lines, yet this merchant bought his printing from a peddler from out of town.—Porcupine Advance (Timmins).

An Empire Park

Halifax, which has meant so much in the history of the outpost of Empire, whose streets have echoed to the tread of soldiers, sailors and princes, has a suggestion for observance of the Imperial Economic Conference. The Halifax Mail urges that the Canadian Government set aside Citadel Hill as an Empire Park.

The idea is entirely worthy. Citadel Hill rises steeply in the centre of the city, surrounding it and harbor, with waters that have been plied by British ships ever since the founding of the city by Lord Cornwallis in 1759. On Citadel Hill were guns that roared out in defense of the Western outpost of Empire and gave confidence to inhabitants of a tiny area on which rose the "meteor flag of England."—Toronto Mail and Empire.

Inflation Effects

Minneapolis Journal tells of A. C. Townley's plan to print five, ten or fifteen billion dollars in five dollar bills and says if anyone is anxious to find out what the States would do for change, coppers, five and ten-cent pieces, quarters, half-dollars, and dollars, that there would be no need of a bill smaller than five dollars. "The five dollar bills would rapidly become of value so small that they would meet that problem and that alone. One dollar bills, fifty-cent pieces, quarters and dimes would buy nothing at all by themselves. Prices would be stated in thousands—a fortune in face value for a bushel of wheat, a king's ransom for a pair of overalls and audism for everyone but the printer of the bills." Probably also every person would hasten to spend as quickly as he got the bills for fear lest they become of less and less value even in twenty-four hours time. That was what happened the mark when the Germans were inflating it so that a million in old marks became not worth a cent. Who profited? Not those who bought or held marks.—Ontario Intelligencer.

Summer Season Opens

The summer season has opened with a deplorable toll of drowning accidents. Unless those who seek recreation on or in the water are warned by the distressing reports which appear almost daily in the press, the loss of life from this cause is likely to equal that of last year when 341 persons were drowned in Ontario.

Everyone is familiar with the dangers of venturing into unknown waters, of swimming immediately after a meal, or when overheated, of diving into water where the character of the bottom is not known, and of

using artificial supports which may become displaced and prove more of a menace than an aid. These dangers have been dinned into the ears of the public again and again. Thoughtless disregard of them is costly.

And since thoughtlessness is characteristic of children, parents would do well to impress upon them the necessity for caution when playing about the water. It does not do for any parent to imagine that his or her child is not going to get into danger without some watchful eye having it in view. It is well to have every child taught to swim at as early an age as possible. It is even more important to instill into them the peril of playing about water where there is no one to rescue them if they get into danger.—Toronto Telegram.

THE EMPIRE

Canada and the Empire

It is, perhaps, appropriate that the next great Imperial Conference, upon which much depends, should be held at Ottawa for Canada since the War has given a lead to the Empire. It is true that she has not been able to absorb immigrants as did the United States during last century, but we must remember that that capital, largely British, which enabled the United States to absorb those immigrants, was wasted in the Great War, Canada is still the Land of Promise—the country that should in a hundred years be as rich, and as populous as her friendly neighbor south of that unfortified border, which is in itself a beacon to the world and a foreshadowing of the day when forts and armies shall be needed no more.—Hong Kong Press.

Empire Minerals

Dr. Charles Camsell, Deputy-Minister of Mines in Canada, asks why there cannot be Empire co-operation in mining? Our problem with base minerals is largely one of world over-production and inability to get on the market at competitive prices, but an Empire agreement on the lines suggested by Dr. Camsell's address should go a long way to improve the position. If there is world over-production in a commodity all the more reason for the Empire to buy that commodity within the Empire, while the position arising from cut competition in certain minerals, from which Southern Rhodesia has suffered, should be as susceptible to preferential treatment as in the case of agricultural and manufactured products. The situation is described by the Canadian Minister as one of almost incalculable possibilities. In view of his belief, the Canadian delegates can be expected to press the matter vigorously, so that something which is calculable may be achieved. It is a question which warrants the special interest of the Rhodesian delegates, for anything that would stimulate the revival of the base mineral industry in Rhodesia would have far-reaching effects for good.—Salisbury Rhodesia Herald.

The Future in New South Wales

Of course, world conditions are shockingly bad, and we cannot escape some of the consequences but there is a great deal on the other side of the ledger. We have had two extra good seasons, and a third seems highly probable. We are not in the position of those unfortunate countries which cannot find a market for their goods at any price; our staples wool is in a stronger position than any other great world produce; while for our manufactures we have the home market which for so many years we presented to the foreigner. We are not going to get back to the old conditions they were most unhealthy boom conditions, based on vast foreign borrowing and wasteful spending, and were bound to crash. But wise government and confidence and a few fair years can bring us back more real prosperity than we ever had.—Sydney Bulletin.

Empire Migration

The report on Empire migration issued by the British Economic Advisory Council directs attention to an important fact which will be of serious consequence to Australia when a return to prosperity makes it desirable to augment our population by immigration. "It is not sufficiently realized," says the council, "that Great Britain already has less than a replacement birth rate." That means that unless there is a further severe shrinkage in British trade, necessitating the disposal by immigration of the number in excess of those who can be absorbed in home industries—an unlikely contingency—there will be no pressing motive impelling people to go to the Dominions.—Melbourne Australasian.

India and the Empire Preference

There is a comforting belief held in India that as India's great staple industries are exporters of indispensable raw materials, there is no need for India to worry about Preference, as she is sure of her markets in any event. This is a prodigious fallacy for which one day India may pay dearly. Competition is becoming increasingly acute and India cannot afford to neglect a single overseas market.—Calcutta Englishman.

Practice and More Practice



Australia is out to win at the olympics and since her team arrived at Los Angeles strenuous practice has been enforced. Here is Cyclist Edgar Gray limbering up.

Fast Bomber Plane Performs at Hendon

Secret Fighting Machines Also in Royal Air Force Manoeuvres

Hendon, England.—Great Britain's newest secret fighting aircraft, including a day bomber capable of 200 miles an hour at 20,000 feet, were seen in action for the first time by a record throng at the thirteenth Royal Air Force display here.

The great air spectacle drew 250,000 paid spectators and more than 250,000 outside the air-drome.

The day's big event was an encounter between the new Hawker-Hart day bomber and three Hawker-Fury fighters. These are the fastest and latest types in the Royal Air Force. Secrecy has enshrouded them since their inception and the Air Ministry still is unwilling to divulge their official performance.

The bomber was spotted hovering in the air and immediately the Furies roared and started slooting up rockets. The battle began with the rattle-tat of machine guns. The bomber rolled and banked to evade the speedier pursuers but the Furies hung on its tail. Two Furies were sent down in "flames"—realistic ro' smoke released by the pilots—before the bomber was "shot down."

The main program opened with a mass take-off of fifty-four bombers comprising three squadrons of Air Force machines and three squadrons of volunteers. The civilian airmen, mostly bank clerks and office workers, showed a skill which compared favorably with that of the professional airmen.

A new huge night bomber, flying 125 miles an hour, aroused considerable interest, as did a Victoria troop carrier which can be converted into a bomber.

OTHER OPINIONS

Quality Outweighs Price

A serious situation has arisen in American industry because of the widespread propaganda stressing price rather than quality as the basis of value. The buying public, which by instinct and practice is a consumer of good products, is having its taste steadily lowered and its standards destroyed by the avalanche of bargain advertising which has swept the country. This ill-advised price appeal has been far-reaching in its bad effect, not only in deteriorating the consumer's standards, but also in increasing the difficulties of manufacturers of reliable merchandise who must compete with business operated solely on a price basis.—Boston Christian Science Monitor.

No Decadence in Britain

The fact is that the position of this singular nation, not merely during the last year or two, but during the last twelve years, has been very generally misunderstood in other countries. Observers like M. Andre Siegfried were disposed to detect signs of national decadence. But the very unrest which appeared in industry was in part due to the determination of ex-soldiers never to endure again the degrading poverty many of them had known before the war. And they did not endure it. The most remarkable fact about British history since the war is that in spite of loss of exports, in spite of unemployment and strikes, the standard of living of the whole community, from the humblest laborer to the middle classes, has shown an amazing improvement.—The Christian Science Monitor.

Representing Australia



We have pleasure in presenting Miss Frances Bull and Miss Bonnie Moaling, 18 and 19 year old Australian olympic swimmers. Bonnie broke the 100-metre backstroke record when fifteen.

Veteran Swimmer



Years ago Duke Kahanamoku of Hawaii set a new mark for the 100-yard swim. Physically fit at 42 he hopes to win olympic honors.

Mosaic and Streak Of Tomato

Research work just completed at the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology, St. Catharines, Ont., a branch laboratory of the Division of Botany, Experimental Farms Branch, of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, demonstrates that "mosaic" and "streak" of tomatoes are seed borne. This has been accomplished in two ways by the St. Catharines Laboratory: (1) by growing under controlled conditions tomato plants that have come from seed selected from streak plants, and (2) by inoculating healthy tomato plants with the crushed embryos from seed taken from plants affected with streak and mosaic.

By the first method as over thirty per cent of streak and high eight per cent of mosaic was obtained, while the second method gave as high as 66.2-3 per cent of streak and mosaic. It should be pointed out, however, that sometimes "streak" seed, that is seed from plants affected with streak, gave rise to plants that were absolutely healthy so that all seed from a disease plant does not necessarily transmit the disease. The same is also true for mosaic seed, that is seed from mosaic plants. On the other hand, clear cut evidence of virus being present in the embryo of the seed has been obtained, and thus the possibility of seed transmission is at once apparent.

Up till now, the efforts of the grower to control streak have all too often met with very little success, largely because it was not known how the disease originated. Now that our pathologists have demonstrated that the disease may be carried in the seed it immediately suggests the use of seed that has clear cut evidence of virus being present in the embryo of the seed has been obtained, and thus the possibility of seed transmission is at once apparent.

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Birth Rate Continues To Drop in France

Paris.—The fall in the birth rate in France is gravely preoccupying the nation. It is feared that the population will decrease by half in the next seventy-five years. France's population today is roughly 40,000,000.

The continued decline in the birth rate has become so serious that it is officially estimated that where as in 1930 the number of youths called to the colors was 258,000, in 1935 the number will have fallen to 136,000.

In 1835 the average French family raised four children; in 1896 this figure had fallen to three children per family, and today the figure is barely 2. The births in France in 1865 were 1,340,000. In 1891 they were 915,000 and the last annual figures available show them to be 741,000.

Worth is found mostly in another's trust.

Ottawa

Ottawa, the capital of Canada, is particularly in the limelight of public attention this year. Always, because of its beauty and its political interest, Ottawa this year has the added attraction of being the city of the Imperial Economic Conference of the British Nations on the first occasion upon which the Imperial Conference has been held outside of London.

The city of Ottawa is located in the Province of Ontario on the banks of the Ottawa, a majestic river which joins the St. Lawrence near Montreal, about 115 miles eastward. The Ottawa rises hundreds of miles to the northward, draining a country of immense forest resources which has contributed materially to the prominence of the Canadian capital in the industrial world. Ottawa is approximately 400 miles northwest of New York and about 600 miles from Washington, the capital of the United States. The city has a population of about 125,000, and surrounding municipalities, not included in the corporation, substantially increase that figure.

Development at Ottawa dates from the arrival of Colonel By in 1826 with a company of British Royal Engineers who came to build the Rideau Canal, a military trade route of transportation linking the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers. He pitched his camp close to the spot where the beautiful Chateau Laurier, which will be the home of the delegates to the conference during their stay in Ottawa, now stands. Around this camp grew the village of Bytown, which by 1847 became an incorporated town. The name was changed to Ottawa in 1854, and three years later Queen Victoria selected the city as the capital of Canada.

The beauty of Ottawa is commented upon by every visitor. The architecture of its public buildings is appropriate to the dignity of a great nation. The thirty miles of boulevards which encircle the city present an ever-changing panorama of beauty. Rich farming country lies to the south and west; immediately to the north rise the Laurentian Mountains, where fishing, hunting and life in the open invite the sportsman and adventurer.

At Ottawa the river which gives the city its name is augmented by two other important streams—the Rideau and the Gatineau. These three rivers afford almost inexhaustible supplies of electrical energy which is made available to the residents at a rate among the lowest in the world.

Although Ottawa's importance in world affairs is due mainly to its political significance, the city has also substantial other interests. A recent census discloses 208 manufacturing concerns in Ottawa with an investment of approximately \$60,000,000. The principal industries have to do with lumber and paper products and with manufactures of wood, iron and steel.

Modern Apiarists Use Bee Escapes

"Hoarding" is a habit that has received considerable criticism of late, but there are instances where hoarding has proven of great benefit to mankind. Several thousands of years ago some observant person noticed that a certain little insect had developed the habit of hoarding to a remarkable degree and this person, like many of today, considered the principle a bad one, therefore set about to discover ways and means whereby the thifty one could be made to disgorge at least a part of her savings. How to get it was the question, for it was found that the little insect was just as ready to fight for what she had gathered as she was ready to work for it and the results were painful to the plunderer. The person therefore decided that because the insect refused to give up her stores peacefully she must die, and die she did over the sulphur pit. With the worker dead the process of robbing to kill the worker in order to get her stores would soon result in no more stores to rob, but human cunning soon overcame this difficulty by devising a method whereby the stores could be obtained without the owners' knowledge. Bees are encouraged to store their honey in boxes (supers) above the chamber in which they rear their young and when these boxes are filled the beekeeper slips a thin board fitted with a bee escape beneath them. The bees pass through the bee escape but cannot return, therefore in a few hours the box of honey may be removed without the bees knowing it and an empty one put in its place to be refilled. Bee escapes are used in all of the Experimental Farms Apiaries as the best and least painful method of taking from the bees the fruits of their labors. Bee escapes, therefore, should be included in the equipment of every apiary.—Experimental Farms Note.

Consumption of Meat in Canada

The per capita consumption of meat in Canada in 1931 was 148.46 pounds. In doing this the Canadian eats practically his own weight in meat yearly.

To owe an obligation to a worthy friend is a happiness, and can be no disparagement.—Charron

Paris Notes

Telephonic communication between France and the island of Corsica was established for the first time on June 1. Transmission is effected by land wire to the radio-sending station of La Turbie, near Nice, and from there by air to the Corsican station of Calenzana, from whence it once more proceeds by land wire to any point in the island. The ordinary inter-departmental rate is charged for conversation, that is, twenty-four francs, about \$1, for every unit of three minutes from Paris, and only six francs from Nice, for the same period of time.

NATION KEEPS LEGAL RECORD.

At the Hotel de Rohan, where the national archives are kept, the records of twenty-eight Parisian notaries have been lodged in a new repository. This is the result of the law passed by Parliament in 1928, which "authorized and implored" notaries to store those of their files which were more than 125 years old in departmental or national archives. Until now a historian wishing to find out some details in the history of Paris, or in that of any other French town, has been obliged to hunt through the records and files of the notaries of that town, a procedure which was inconvenient and entailed considerable loss of time. The records of the twenty-eight notaries which have just been stored at the Hotel de Rohan fill no fewer than 28,000 voluminous files.

STORE USES TELEVISION.

For the first time in France, outside a laboratory, a successful experiment of two-way telephony and television has been carried out. It was made between the Galeries Lafayette, a department store, and the offices of Le Matin, a Paris daily newspaper, about a mile distant from each other. An ordinary telephone was used for the conversation, and television transmitters were installed at both ends. The participants, although sitting in front of projectors, were quite unaware of the fact, as the light was filtered through an ebonite screen, which eliminated all but the infra-red rays, and these are invisible to the naked eye. Receiving screens of ten inches by five were also installed, and reproduced the head and shoulders of the person transmitted. The results, although not very clear, were pronounced quite good and the system (Baird-Nathan) is to be used by the Galeries Lafayette between its stores in Paris and Lyons.

LAWYERS FIRST AS DEPUTIES.

More than a third of the newly elected members of the Chamber of Deputies—about 250—are lawyers. No other profession can boast of anything like this number of representatives in national parliament. The next largest professional group consists of sixty-three farmers, landowners and agricultural engineers. There are also forty-six manufacturers, forty-two doctors, thirty-five publicists, thirty-two professors, twenty-seven officials, nineteen engineers, fifteen journalists, eight school teachers, eight mechanics, six chemists and three miners.

JOYFUL NEWS FOR STUDENTS.

Four hundred more candidates that last year are presenting themselves this year for the baccalot, or to give this examination its proper name, the baccalaurat. Owing to the severity of the examiners, the number of "passes" in 1931 was very small, but perhaps to encourage candidates, the rumor has spread that this severity is to be somewhat relaxed during the examinations which are taking place in June and July.

Canadian-Made Fertilizers

Ottawa, Can.—Production of fertilizer in Canada increased in 1931 by 65 per cent. In value compared with 1930. There are now 18 establishments in the Dominion engaged in the manufacture of fertilizers with a combined capital of \$15,528,229, according to the Canadian Government Bureau of Statistics, which has just issued a report on the chemical and allied products industries for the year 1931. This report states that the fertilizer group of industries had a production valued at \$4,147,315 against \$2,504,572 in 1930. Three other groups recorded advances, toilet preparations at \$5,172,039 comparing with \$4,206,513; polishes and dressings, \$1,475,058 compared to \$1,346,899; and flavoring extracts, \$1,609,501 against \$1,544,092.

The chemical industry of Canada is divided into 14 main groups of plants. Arranged in order of value, the groups and their total production in 1931 were as follows, the figures being from the preliminary report for the year: paints, pigments and varnishes, \$19,182,227; miscellaneous chemical industries, \$16,827,350; soaps and washing compounds, \$16,822,900; medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations, \$15,206,176; acids, alkalies and salts, \$10,767,219; toilet preparations, \$5,172,039; fertilizers, \$4,147,315; compressed gases, \$2,752,558; coal tar distillation, \$2,576,102; inks, \$2,300,143; flavoring extracts, \$1,609,501; adhesives, \$1,475,774; polishes and dressings, \$1,475,058; wood distillation, \$700,927.

The latest statistics for the allied industries show the total investment in chemical plants as \$161,501; adhesion of establishments is 592.